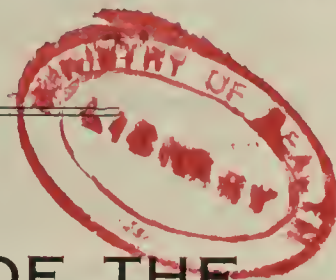


SHAFTESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH 1938.

Section A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area 42,000 acres.

Registrar General's estimate of resident population, mid 1938—8,301.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books—2,759.

Rateable Value—£35,687.

Sum represented by a penny rate, 1938-39—£144. 9s. 4d.

Social Conditions.

Mainly dairy farming. There are three bacon factories and one factory which manufactures dried milk products. The manufacture of gloves is also carried on.

There is not much unemployment in the district.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live Births	Legitimate	106	47	59	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—13.3
	Illegitimate	4	1	3	
Still Births	...	7	2	5	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—59.8
Deaths	...	112	52	60	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—13.5
Deaths from puerperal causes :—					Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis ... Nil.					
No. 30 Other puerperal causes Nil.					Nil.
Death rate of infants under one year of age :—					
All infants per 1,000 live births					27.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...					18.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...					250
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)					7
Deaths from Measles (all ages)					Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...					Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)					Nil

Section B.—General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. (i) Medical Officer of Health—David Arnott, M.B., Ch.B., (January—30th June).
—Carrick G. Payton, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 1st July).

Sanitary Inspector—H. C. Cox, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

This Officer is also Petroleum, Housing Inspector and Surveyor under the Public Health Acts, and acts as Meat Inspector for the whole district with the exception of Messrs. Oake Woods Factory, at Gillingham. Lt. Col. T. Sealy Green, M.R.C.V.S., is Meat Inspector at that Factory.

(ii) (a) **Laboratory Facilities.**

During December, 1938, the County Laboratory at Dorchester was opened for the examination of Pathological material.

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.**

The Ambulance owned by the Shaftesbury Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade covers most of the Rural District, but in addition there is an Ambulance at Gillingham which is housed at Messrs. Stickland's Garage, and is available for road casualties.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**

No change during 1938.

(d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**

No change during 1938.

(e) **Hospitals.**

- (1) On the 23rd September, the Dorset County Council convened a meeting of the following Councils :—

Shaftesbury Borough,
Shaftesbury Rural District,
Sherborne Urban District,
Sherborne Rural District,
Sturminster Rural District,

which constitute Area No. 2 (North Dorset), and this Conference requested the Minister of Health to set up a Joint Hospital Board for this area.

- (2) **Small Pox.** Contracts have been considered for repairs to the existing Hospital

Section C.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. (i) **Water.**

The whole district now has a piped supply, with the exception of West Stour, for which a scheme is under consideration.

The public supplies are :—

- (1) **Ashmore.** (a) R.D.C. Springs at Springhead, Fontmell Magna.
(b) R.D.C. Supply, Well Bottom.

- (2) **Boyne Hollow.**

- (3) **Buckhorn Weston.** (a) Pickfords Springs.
(b) Hartmoor Spring.

- (4) **Kington Magna.** (a) Chapel Hill.
(b) Nyland.

- (5) **Mere and Gillingham.**

- (6) **Motcombe.**

The private supplies are: —

- (1) **Bourton**, owned by Mr. Hannam, King's Court Green, Bourton.
(2) **Fontmell Magna**, owned by private local Committee.
(3) **Gillingham**, Rolls Bridge, owned by Mr. Tucker.

- (4) **Iwerne Minster**, owned by Clayesmore School.
- (5) **Kington Magna**, Church Hill Supply, owned by the late Mr. Hopkins.
- (6) **Silton**, owned by Col. Troyte Bullock.
- (7) **Stour Provost**, Manor Farm Supply, owned by the Dorset County Council,

Both the public and private supplies are subject to bacteriological analysis every month for routine purpose, and at more frequent intervals when necessary.

All supplies have been subject to intermittent pollution throughout the year, and frequent inspections have been necessitated. A considerable amount of work has been done, particularly in regard to protecting the gathering grounds, and improving the waterworks. Towards the end of the year, Boyne Hollow and Kington Magna (Chapel Hill and Nyland), were showing very satisfactory analyses.

The following supplies were condemned during the year :—

- (1) **Ashmore**—Springs at Springhead, Fontmell Magna. An alternative supply was afforded from Boyne Hollow.
- (2) **Buckhorn Weston**. Pickfords Springs and Hartmoor Spring. An alternative supply has been given from the Mere and Gillingham supply.
- (3) **Kington Magna**. Church Hill Supply. This will be closed as soon as another supply is available.
- (4) **Silton**. This will be closed as soon as another supply is available.

Mere and Gillingham. This source has shown intermittent pollution which is viewed with some concern on account of this being one of the largest supplies for the district.

Motcombe. Considerable anxiety is felt with regard to this source.

Bourton. This supply has shown a small amount of intermittent pollution.

Fontmell Magna. This supply has shown considerable pollution, but work undertaken to clean it up showed satisfactory results towards the end of the year. It has been recommended that the Gathering Ground be adequately protected and sterilised.

Iwerne Minster—Clayesmore School. This source has shown considerable pollution, and has almost completely been replaced by a supply from Boyne Hollow.

Gillingham—Rolls Bridge. This supply has shown signs of heavy sewage pollution, and it is proposed to close it and give an alternative supply from Mere and Gillingham.

(ii) **Drainage and Sewerage.**

The Iwerne Minster Sewerage Scheme has nearly been completed. A survey of Gillingham has been carried out by Engineers prior to the submission of a Sewerage Scheme to the Council.

2. **Rivers and Streams.**

Action has been taken in the following cases :—

- (a) **Clayesmore School**. A complaint has been lodged owing to the sewage works of this School polluting a nearby stream used for watering cattle. The sewage works have been repaired and the nuisance abated after the service of a Statutory Notice.
- (b) **Hunger Hill Farm, Gillingham**. A leaking sewage tank was polluting a nearby ditch and causing a nuisance owing to smell. The tank has been repaired and the nuisance abated after the service of an Informal Notice.
- (c) **Dairy House Farm, Kington Magna**. Drainage from the farm was overflowing from the cesspool to an adjacent farm, and causing a nuisance owing to smell, etc. A septic tank, etc. was constructed and the nuisance abated after the service of a Statutory Notice.

3. (i) **Closet Accommodation.**

During the year 157 closets have been converted to the water carriage system]

(ii) **Public Cleansing.**

The area from which household refuse is now collected includes the outskirts of Gillingham, the collection being made monthly, and/or when required.

(iii) **Sanitary Inspections of the Area.**

Number of Inspections	...	..	...	1300
Number of Informal Notices	...		...	32
Number complied with	...	...	...	28
Number of Statutory Notices	...		...	4
Number complied with	...	...	...	4

(iv) **Factories and Workshops.**

During the year 149 inspections were carried out of factories, workshops and workplaces.

		Inspections.	Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories with mechanical power	...	107	2	Nil
Factories without mechanical power	...	42	Nil	Nil
Workplaces, other than outworkers' premises		Nil	Nil	Nil
	Total	149	2	Nil

Defects		Found	Remedied	Referred to H. M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	...	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature		—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors		—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
Insufficient	...	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective		1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes		1	1	—	—
	Total	5	5	—	—

(v) **Shops and Offices.**

No action was necessary during the year.

(vi) **Camping Sites.**

A Gypsy Encampment at Huntingford was removed upon the service of a Statutory Notice.

(vii) **Smoke Abatement.**

A nuisance caused at the Farma Cream Factory by the overloading of the existing boilers was abated following the installation of an additional boiler and automatic feeding plant.

(viii) **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There is one swimming bath in Gillingham, owned by the Governors of Gillingham Grammar School and opened to the public for a period during the summer months. No action is taken by the Council to ensure the satisfactory condition of the water.

(ix) **Eradiction of Bed Bugs.**

No action was necessary during the year.

4. Schools.

With the exception of Kington Magna School where the water supply is unsatisfactory, the sanitary condition and water supply of schools generally, is regarded as good.

Section D.—Housing.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	329
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	594
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	...	0
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	21
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	68

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices.

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	34
--	---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :						
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	...	42
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—						
(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	...	4
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :						
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	36
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—						
(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	...	4
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	...	0
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :						
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	8
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	0
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1938 :						
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	0

4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	17
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	17
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	111½
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	2
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	16
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	58
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	0

Section E.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply.

Number of persons on Register at the end of 1938	...	...	...	...	198
Number of Dairy Farms and Other Dairy Premises on Register at the end of 1938	...	...	...	...	198
Number of Dairy Farms inspected during 1938	...	...	...	...	69
Number of Inspections during 1938	...	...	...	...	98
Number of Notices served	...	...	...	...	27
Number complied with	...	...	...	...	27
Number of Milkshops inspected during 1938	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	8
Number of Notices served	...	...	...	...	0

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

The Inspector at Oake Woods Factory, is Lt. Col. T. Sealy Green, M.R.C.V.S., and the Inspector for the remainder of the Rural District is H. C. Cox, M.S.I.A., A.R. San. I.

The general condition of the six slaughterhouses now registered is good.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Oake Woods (Pigs)
Number killed (if known)	Nil	189	2557	564	9022	34158
Number inspected	Nil	189	2557	564	9022	34158
All diseases except Tuberculosis.						
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	261	Nil
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2.9	Nil
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	23	161
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	992	4453
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11%	12.7%

(c) Adulterations.

The following is a list of samples taken in the District during the year :—

Article	No. of Samples	No. reported against
Butter	1	—
Castor Oil	1	—
Flour	1	—
Glycerine, Lemon and Ipecac Compound of	1	—
Lard	1	—
Milk	8	—
Paste (Meat)	1	—
Permanganate of Potassium	1	—
Spice (Mixed)	1	—
	16	—

(d) **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**

No action was necessary.

(e) **Nutrition.**

No action was necessary.

(f) **Shellfish (Molluscan).**

There are no layings or shell-fish beds in the District

Section F.—Prevalance of, and Control over,
Infectious and Other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease			Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital			Total Deaths
Smallpox	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	29	...	16	...	—
Diphtheria	...	...	1	...	1	...	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)			—	...	—	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
Pneumonia	...	...	7	...	—	...	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Malaria	...	...	1	...	—	...	—

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods			New Cases Respiratory		New Cases Non-Respiratory		Deaths Respiratory		Deaths Non-Respiratory	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals			—	2	1	—	—	3	—	—

Upon receipt of a notification of Tuberculosis a house inspection is carried out, and steps taken to remedy any defects where conditions are found to be unsatisfactory.

GARRICK G. PAYTON,
Medical Officer of Health.

Appendix.

Bye-Laws, etc. in Force.

Ministry of Health Order 63, 724, dated 16th June, 1915, determining expenses of house refuse removal in the Contributory Place of Gillingham to be Special Expenses.

Ministry of Health Order 75, 140, dated 20th December, 1930, determining expenses of house refuse removal in the Contributory Place of Motcombe to be Special Expenses.

Rural District Council Slaughterhouse Bye-Laws dated 27th May, 1922, for the licensing, registering and inspection of Slaughterhouses. (Expired 31st March 1936).

Standing Orders dated 4th October, 1934, made under Section 96 and Rule 4, Part V. of the Third Schedule of the Local Government Act, 1933.

Bye-Laws with respect to Nuisances arising from snow, filth, dust, ashes, and rubbish and for the prevention of the keeping of animals on any premises so as to be injurious to health. Applicable to the Contributory Place of Gillingham, and operative as from 1st April, 1935. Made under Section 44 of the Public Health Act, 1875 as applied by the Rural District Councils (Urban Powers) Order, 1931.

Bye-Laws with respect to the Decent Conduct of Persons using Sanitary Conveniences provided and maintained by the Council. Applicable to the Contributory Place of Gillingham, and operative as from 1st June, 1935. Made under Section 20 (1) of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 as applied by the Rural District Councils (Urban Powers) Order, 1931.

Bye-Laws with respect to New Buildings and certain matters in connection with Buildings. Applicable to the Rural District of Shaftesbury, and operative as from 1st August, 1935. Made under Section 157 of the Public Health Act, 1875 ; Section 23 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 ; the Rural District Councils (Urban Powers) Order, 1931, and any other authority or enactment in that behalf enabling.

Shaftesbury Rural (Urban Powers) Order, 1935, being Ministry of Health Order 83754, dated 5th November, 1935, directing the provisions of Section 114 of the Public Health Act, 1875 (as to offensive trades) to be in force in the Contributory Place of Gillingham, and operative as from 25th November, 1935

Shaftesbury Rural (Public Health) Order, 1936, being Ministry of Health Order 84389, dated 14th January, 1936, declaring Section 16 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, as to retention of approved plans, to be in force in the Rural District of Shaftesbury. Operative as from 3rd February, 1936